

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03221 241533Z

43

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 IGA-02 XMB-07 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /106 W

----- 128791

R 241458Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8931

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 3221

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NG, DM

SUBJECT: MALANVILLE-GAYA BRIDGE/PORT LOAN

REF: A. NIAMEY 3210; B. STATE 204807

1. REF A SETS FORTH IN SOME DETAIL PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF
CONDITION PRECEDENT IN AID GAYA BRIDGE AND PORT LOAN AGREEMENT
THAT GON OBTAIN MRGD APPROVAL FOR RAISING OF BRIDGE ON NIGER
RIVER. BOTH EMBASSY AND RDO HAVE REPEATEDLY RAISED MATTER
WITH GON OVER PERIOD OF 18 MONTHS AND IN LAST TEN DAYS,
BEFORE RECEIPT OF REF B, AMBASSADOR PRESSED ACTING FONMIN AT
TWO SEPARATE MEETINGS FOR WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF ORAL
STATEMENTS THAT DAHOMEY HAS NO OBJECTION TO PROJECT.

2. WE DOUBT SUCH CONFIRMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING FOR SIMPLE
REASON THAT MRGD WILL NOT GO ON PUBLIC RECORD WITH GON TO
APPROVE PROJECT WHICH IT PROBABLY VIEWS AS THREAT TO ITS

MONOPOLISTIC ROLE AS PRINCIPAL SUPPLY ENTRY POINT TO
WESTERN NIGER VIA COTONOU/PARAKOU RAILROAD. THERE ARE
MANY RATIONAL ARGUMENTS THAT CAN BE MARSHALLED TO CONTEST
MRGD'S ATTITUDE INCLUDING POINT THAT OUR SUPPORT FOR
PARAKOU/MALANVILLE ROAD PROJECT DEMONSTRATES OUR INTEREST
IN HELPING MRGD MAINTAIN THIS SUPPLY ROUTE. HOWEVER, ON
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NIAMEY 03221 241533Z

MATTERS SUCH AS THIS, GOVERNMENTS, MRGD

INCLUDED, ARE NOT ALWAYS RATIONAL.

3. AT SAME TIME, MRGD WILL NOT SAY NO TO PROJECT
IN ORDER NOT OFFEND IT S NEIGHBOR. THUS, MATTER COULD
DRAG ON INDEFINITELY. WE THEREFORE FIND OURSELVES
IN POSITION OF INSISTING THAT GON PRODUCE SOMETHING WHICH
IS UNREALISTIC AND IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO ACHIEVE. FURTHER, IN
INSISTING ON THIS CONDITION WE AR INJECTING POTENTIALLY
CONTENTIOUS ISSUE IN GON-MRGD RELATIONS WHICH WE
BELIEVE TO BE POLITICALLY UNWISE COURSE OF ACTION. WE BELIEVE
EMBASSY COTONOU SHARES THIS ASSESSMENT; IT MAY WISH COMMENT
FURTHER.

4. WE CONCLUDE BEST WAY TO EXTRICATE OURSELVES FROM SITUATION
IN WHICH WE HAVE IN EFFECT GIVEN MRGD VETO OVER PROJECT WHICH
OTHERWISE MAKES GREAT SENSE, IS TO AMEND LOAN AGREEMENT AND
CONVERT CONDITION PRECEDENT INTO A COVENANT AS PROPOSED REF A.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT REVIEW REF B IN LIGHT
REF A AND THIS MESSAGE, ACCEPT GON ASSURANCE
TO US THAT IT HAS MRGD AGREEMENT V RAISING OF BRIDGE AND
AUTHORIZED EMBASSY TO DROP THIS ASPECT OF CONDITON
PRECEDENT IN FAVOR OF COVENANT ARRANGEMENT WITH NIGER
(PARA 10 AND 11 REF A).HECK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORTS, DEVELOPMENT LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NIAMEY03221
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740268-0868
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740919/aaaaaptt.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. NIAMEY 3210; B. STATE 204807
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALANVILLE-GAYA BRIDGE/PORT LOAN
TAGS: EAID, NG, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005